



## Catharine Beall Byrd

August 23, 1929 - August 19, 2019

Catharine was the eldest child of three, born to Joe and Catherine Beall who ran a seed peanut company in rural Alabama. She had many memories of working for her father while she went to school, of the farmers who couldn't read or write, of the long hot days of harvest and many homes without running water. Her sister, Jobie, says when they would get up to no good, one of Catharine's many talents was to never get in trouble.

Catharine was a good student and went to Auburn University, where she met the tall and handsome Bill Byrd, who would become her husband of 69 years - after eloping while still in school. (THAT is a story!). Eldest sons, Bill and Bob, were born in Alabama. Daughter Vassar and son, Joe arrived after the family had moved to California. Only a couple years later they settled for good in Vancouver, Wash., where she and Bill raised their family.

Catharine was a very involved mother, volunteering countless hours in school, with the Girl Scouts, driving and chaperoning after school sports and activities. Throughout her life, she remained very close with her parents and sister, and the family visited Alabama often. Missing her college degree, she went back to school when she was in her mid-40's and graduated Summa cum laude with an accounting degree from University of Portland.

She remained a rabid Auburn football fan her entire life; her only regret about

living in the Pacific N.W. was that no one seemed to really CARE about football here. Catharine loved traveling with Bill and they visited many countries together. She worked with him in the Volkesport association. She volunteered with Friends of Hospice for decades, raising thousands of dollars for end of life care. Catharine was very involved in Columbia Presbyterian Church and had the same close group of friends in a bible study class for years.

Preceded in death by her husband, Bill, Catharine leaves behind her four children; seven grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. Remembrances to Friends of Hospice Southwest Washington. Service to be held at 11 a.m., Friday, Aug. 30, 2019, at Columbia Presbyterian Church.

# Tribute Wall

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**Anne Byrd** - August 26, 2019 at 12:00 AM

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“ Catharine Beall Byrd

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**Adrienne & Michelle (Willows)** - August 23, 2019 at 12:00 AM